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## The Octofoil, August/September/October 1997

Ninth Infantry Division Association

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# THE OCTOFOIL

412 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, N.J. 07087

THE NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

Volume XLXXII Number 4

Aug-Sept-Oct 1997

## Speaker at Hampton Reunion



**BRIGADIER GENERAL  
FRANK L. GUNN**

Frank L. Gunn was born in Crawfordville, Georgia, on 21 March 1920. He was graduated from the University of Georgia in 1941 and received a bachelor of science degree in plant pathology and an ROTC commission as a Second Lieutenant of Infantry Reserve.

His first assignment, in June 1941, was as a Platoon Leader with the 39th Infantry Regiment of the 9th Infantry Division of Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Shortly thereafter, the 9th Division was deployed to the European Theater of Operations, where he served the 39th Infantry as Platoon Leader, Company Commander, Battalion Executive Officer, Battalion Commander, and in the Herizen Forest, as Regimental Commander.

He participated in eight campaigns in Africa, Sicily and Europe, attaining the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He earned one Silver Star for action in Africa, one in Sicily and a third Silver Star in Normandy when his battalion captured over 800 prisoners at Cherbourg. Among the officers captured were Lieutenant General von Schliegen and Rear Admiral Hennick, the first General and Flag officers captured in World War II on the European Continent.

Shortly afterwards, General Gunn's battalion was one of the lead units in the famous Remagen Bridge crossing of the Rhine River that spearheaded the Allied drive into the German heartland.

After World War II he returned to the United States and reported for duty as a Battalion Commander at the US Army Infantry Replacement Training Center, Fort McClellan, Alabama.

His next duty station was Okinawa, where he reported in December 1950 as Chief of the Comptroller's Management Division.

From February to July 1955 he attended the Armed Forces Staff College in Norfolk, Virginia. Following graduation, he served in Washington, D.C.

In August 1961 General Gunn assumed the duties of the Chief of Staff of the 1st Cavalry Division in Korea. Upon his return to the United States in August 1962, he became Chief of the Strategic Studies Group of the US Army Combat Developments Command's Institute of Advanced Studies at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania.

In October 1968 he was designated Assistant Division Commander of the 9th Infantry Division in Vietnam. Thus, after an absence of 26 years, returned to the unit in which he first served as a second lieutenant. He remained with the 9th Division until the end of August 1969. In September, he was assigned to Headquarters, US Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, as Assistant Chief of Staff for Military Assistance. Upon his departure, he was awarded a second Distinguished Service Medal.

## LADIES CORNER

Well, in the last October edition, I had too much to tell you, but alas, this time, nothing, except for a nice note from Clara Scott, our new treasurer, returning papers on our donations in May to the three nominees. Also a note on August 30th from Janet Brown, wife of George Brown, a member of my husband Joe's Company B, 47th Infantry, offering to put on a Mary Kay Demonstration, or a sign-up for individual facials, as part of the program for our meeting next May. I must confess that I haven't called her back yet, but I shall call her this week; my summer was just a long waste. Joe wasn't too well, so I cut down on my work and activities, but the cool fall weather (finally!) seems to be rejuvenating me! Would you be at all interested in that Program. Let me know if so? Also a suggested trip to California for a short cruise in May 1999, offered by Judy Goldsmith at our May meeting. Any interest in that? If so, please send a plain old post card to: Ellie Taubner, 85 Smith Ave., Bergenfield, NJ 07621 with just a "Yes" or "No" will do. Well I managed to get a column out of nothing, so I shall say goodbye with some family news:

Our family is fine, oldest grandson Carlos Joseph (Susan's son), graduated from Vanderbilt University in May, just 3 weeks before our meeting. What a proud feeling it gives to grandparents watching that we should live so long to see it! Next year, his sister, Diana is due to graduate from the same school, with Jessica (Stephen's oldest of four) following in 1999. Can't hope too much for the next six grandchildren: Sarah (17), Joseph and Vincent (15-year-old twins), Olivia (10), Ryan (6), Jake (4) ending with beautiful Emma (2), but Joe and I try. Take care, and see you next May?

Ellie Taubner  
85 Smith Avenue  
Bergenfield, NJ 07621

He returned to the United States in May 1970 and reported to Headquarters, United States Continental Army Command at Fort Monroe, Virginia, for duty as Deputy Chief of Staff for Intelligence. He held this position until July 1970 when he was named to the newly created position of Deputy Chief of Staff for Force Development.

General Gunn retired from the army in April 1971 and was immediately employed by the City of Newport News where he was assigned a series of management positions culminating in 1980 when he managed eight separate city departments. He retired in 1980.

## Hampton Virginia Spreads out the Welcome Mat for the NINTH

9th DIVISION REUNION, HAMPTON, VA, 1998

To All Members of the 9th Infantry Division

Association:

The 53rd convention and Reunion of the 9th Infantry Division will be held in Hampton, VA at the Holiday Inn. Pre-registration will be on Monday, May 4, 1998. The Convention will start on Tuesday morning and will finish on Thursday, May 7, 1998.

Check this issue of the Octofoil for the group rates plus senior citizen rates. This does not apply to any member who has not reached the title "senior citizen" HA HA.

Please get your reservation in early so we can get the entire first floor, including both the outer circle and the inner circle. As I mentioned earlier, room rates will be in this issue of the Octofoil. This discounted rate will be available for three days before and three days after the convention, if anyone wants to come early and/or stay longer. Just for your information, if you are going to Historic Williamsburg, it is only 35 minutes away.

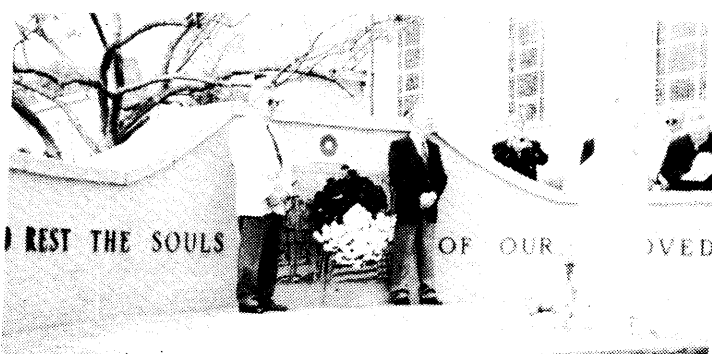
If we get a lot of members who check in early on Monday, we can plan a bus trip to one of the historical points of interest in the area. It would be a free day from all the meetings and your early arrival would help us a great deal with our registration.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, we will have our regular get togethers with dancing and cocktails. The first hot will be free drinks and hors d'oeuvres. We will have great guest speaker at our main dinner on Thursday. In addition, we are negotiating for a well-known comedy star to perform for us.

The hotel has only two floors. They have many rooms on the first floor that would be convenient in case you are disabled and unable to walk up stairs but just in case, elevators are available. Parking is no problem and you can see your car from your hotel window. Courtesy transportation will be available from the train station, bus station, and airport.

There are buses in front of the hotel that will take you to the malls and restaurants, if you so desire. The price of the bus is 25 cents per person. Free popcorn is available in the lobby from vending machines. We are reserving a date for golfers to play at Langley Air Field. The price will be nominal.

## 53rd Memorial Mass Services



Charles McLhinney and Herb Olsen presented the wreath at the Worcester Memorial Service held October 19th. Both lost brothers in the 47th Infantry. Herb's (twin) brother was killed in Normandy, Co. G 47th (both served with Company G 47th) and Charles' older brother Walter, Company E 47th, was killed Germany 1945.



Bottom picture shows Tom Boyle, Msgr. Thomas Needham, pastor of Immaculate Conception Church, Dan Quinn and Father Jerry Rowan are shown at the memorial services. The crowds have thinned out but the spirit is still there.

**Deadline for next issue Dec. 20th**

THE OCTOFOIL  
Form 2579 should be sent to  
412 Gregory Avenue, Weehawken, N.J. 07087  
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Published five times yearly. May, June, July - Aug., Sept., Oct., - Nov., Dec., - Jan., Feb., - Mar, April by and for the members of the Ninth Infantry Division Association. News items, feature stories, photographs and art material from members will be appreciated. Every effort will be made to return photographs and art work in good condition.

An extract from the certificate of incorporation of the 9th Infantry Division Association read: "This Association is formed by the officers and men of the 9th Infantry Division in order to perpetuate the memory of our fallen comrades, to preserve the esprit de corps of the Division, to assist in promoting an everlasting world peace exclusively by means of educational activities and to serve as an information bureau to former members of the 9th Infantry Division.

Copy must be received on or before the 15th of each month to guarantee publication of the 20th.

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Publication #402820  
NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION  
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Dan Quinn, National Secretary, 9th Infantry Division Assn. 412 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, New Jersey 07087

Enclosed please find dues for:

Name.....Serial No.....

Street Address.....

I was a member of:

Battery.....Company.....Regiment.....9th Div.....

I wish to sign up for the following:

Regular Member per year.....\$10.00

Sustaining Member.....

Donation Memorial Scholarship Fund.....

THREE-YEAR MEMBER.....\$25.00

Life Membership.....\$75.00

Ladies Auxiliary Member.....\$30.00

Decals.....50 each

Please credit the following chapter:

Philly-Delaware Valley ☐ Greater New York ☐  
Illinois ☐ Washington, D.C. ☐  
New England ☐ Michigan ☐  
Florida ☐ New Jersey ☐  
Texas ☐ California Chapter ☐

Ladies Auxiliary  
Ninth Infantry Division Association  
Membership Application  
Clara Scott, Treasurer  
1517 Shields St.  
Sherman, Tx. 75092  
Tel. #903-893-8696

Enclosed please find dues for:

Name.....

Street Address.....

City.....State.....Zip.....

My spouse (Brother or relative)

Served with.....

One year.....\$3.00

Credit Chapter.....

Tip of the Hat

Remembering the Memorial Fund and their buddies who have answered their last roll call we thank the following

Lansinburgh Adm. Assn. - In memory of Lawrence Goodwin

Frank Kowalik - In memory of Dr. Walter Sperling, 9th Med. Bn. Co. "C."

Joseph Killen - In memory of Geo. H. (Combat) Keller, G Co. 47th and Msgr. Anthony DeLaura, 47th Chaplain.

Mrs. Irene Phenix - In memory of all deceased members of the 84th F.A.

Samuel Robinson - In memory of Edward McHugh and Jack Kargir and "Get Well" to John Vander Meiden, 84th F.A.

Aaron Lubin - In memory of Jack Kargir, Bob McCormick, Al Phenix, Howard Mulrane, 84th F.A.

Harry Kenney - In memory of Bob Colflesh, E Co. 47th Inf.

Charles McLhinney - in memory of his brother, Walter (K.I.A.), John Trevelise, Frank Petty, Bill Mooty, Bob Colflesh, Bill Larson, all E Co. 47th Inf. and Fr. Anthony DeLaura, 47th Inf.

Paul Keller - in memory of Frank Wade Harrison Daysh and J.P. "Doc" Roller, all 39th Inf.

Robert Gleason - in memory of J.V. "Jim" Ciluffo, 2nd Plt., C Co., 1st Bn., 47th Inf.

James O'Hara - in memory of Bob Colflesh.

Mollie Scott - in memory of Bob Colflesh.

Robert Emmanuel - in memory of Bob Colflesh.

Ted Curless - in memory of Bob Colflesh, Bill Mooty, Capt. Frank Petty and all the men of E Co. 47th Inf.

Robert Glans

Larry McLaughlin - in memory of Bill Larson, 47th Inf.

Sabastino Agostinelli - in memory of Sewell "Bill" Carson of Hqts. 9th Med. Bn.

John Baumann - in memory of Irma Koskie, widow of Chuck Koskie, F Co. 47th Inf.

C.B. Baker - in memory of Dr. Athony Sordill, 9th Med. and 47th Inf.

Fancis Benjamin - in memory of Phil Emmons, 15th Engrs.

Larry Vinci - in memory of Lt. Beren Albers and fallen comrades of 47th Inf. B Co.

Wanda Preston - in memory of Elton Harrell.

Andrew S. Kopach

David Pinkney - in memory of the men of A Co. 15th Engr. Bn.

Mrs. Catherine Palley - in memory of her husband, Albert Palley, M Co. 47th Inf.

ROOM RESERVATIONS

Holiday Inn

HAMPTON HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER  
1815 West Mercury Boulevard  
Hampton, VA 23666  
Phone (575) 838-0200/ (800) 842-9370  
Fax: (575) 838-4964  
E-Mail: holiday@cvent.net

RATES: \$69.00 Single Group Name: 9th Infantry Division  
\$69.00 Double Group Code: DIV  
Triple Dates: May 4-7, 1998  
Quads Cut-Off Date: April 4, 1998  
Suite  
Upgrade to our Executive Level for an additional \$10.00 per room/ per night\* (Y/N)  
\*Rates are subject to local tax, currently 10%. Rates honored two days before/after, if available.  
Guest Name(s).....

Telephone Number.....

Address.....City.....State.....Zip.....

Arrival Date.....Departure Date.....

ALL RESERVATIONS MUST BE GUARANTEED WITH A CREDIT CARD NUMBER OR DEPOSIT IN THE AMOUNT OF ONE NIGHT'S ROOM AND TAX (CURRENTLY 10%) BY APRIL 4, 1998. CONFIRMATION OF YOUR RESERVATION WILL BE MAILED TO YOU. RESERVATIONS RECEIVED AFTER THIS THE CUT-OFF DATE ARE SUBJECT TO SPACE AVAILABILITY, AND WILL BE AT THE PREVAILING ROOM RATE.  
Credit Card Number.....Expiration Date.....  
CHECK-IN TIME IS 4:00 P.M. AND CHECK-OUT TIME IS 11:00 A.M.  
SPECIAL REQUESTS:.....

(EVERY EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO ACCOMMODATE YOUR REQUESTS — HOWEVER, THEY ARE NOT GUARANTEED.)

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN TO:

Holiday Inn Hampton Hotel & Conference Center  
1815 West Mercury Boulevard  
Hampton, VA 23666  
ATTN: Reservations Dept.

Don't wait to Purchase  
Strip Tickets

The regular price of the strip ticket will be \$80.00. If you can send in your money before December 30, 1997, the price will be \$70.00.

Please note: When you send in your money for your strip tickets, include your Regular Battalion and Company name — for example, military police, artillery, medic, etc. Also include the name of any other outfit you were with in order that we may include this on your name tag. Include your wife's name or guest that you may wish to bring.

Please use the form below to make your payment and send to Albert Perna, 2642 South Juniper Street, Philadelphia, PA 19148. I may be contacted at (215) 467-2159.

Name of Member	_____		
Address	_____		
	Street		
	City	State	Zip
Phone Number	_____		
Company	Battalion		
Regiment	Unit		
Wife/Guest's Name	_____		
Strip Ticket	before 12/30/1997	\$70.00	_____
	after 12/31/1997	\$80.00	_____
	Amount Enclosed		

Jack Collier - in memory of Mike Kauffman and Matt Urban, 60th Inf.

Susan and Maurice Duncan - in memory of Lawrence Goodwin.

Lansingburgh Central School District Sunshine Fund - in memory of Lawrence Goodwin.

Anthony San Giacomo - in memory of Tony Madonna, Fred D'Amore and Barney Angel, 15th Engrs.

Metro Kowalchick

Boardman "Woody" Lockwood - in memory and regard to Brig. Gen. E.H. Randle, Brig. Gen. Geo. Smythe, Brig. Gen. Lewis Maness, Major Randall Bryant, Capt. Jesse Niven, Capt. Anthony DeLaura (Chaplain), 1st Sgt. Francis Brusic.

\* Stephen Walsh

William J. Palmer

Albert Hasson



# F COMPANY 47TH INFANTRY from Ed Hopkins

Since my last letter I've been in touch with a number of F Company people. When we returned from California where we spent a week visiting Lucy's sister in Encinitas, we found a message on our answering machine from Hugh Dunlop. Hugh left the Ninth along with Earl Wilkey, Gene Reilly, Joe Yarlet and some seventeen other brave men. These were all men who had come overseas with us and were now being tossed out like discarded old tires. It was not a day that the army can be proud of. Hugh still owns that Dairy Queen in Detroit, though he goes in only one or two times a week.

Joe Bergin called me in August from New Hampshire where he has been living in retirement. They had just returned from a trip to Switzerland. On the way home they took a little detour to France where they visited the American Cemetery and Tony Zuks' grave. Joe reports that they really treat the veterans royally at the military cemetery. It was good to hear Joe sound so upbeat and to know he's enjoying his retirement years.

I had a long conversation with Marie Tokarchek a couple weeks ago. She seems to be doing quite well these days back in Heckscheresville, Pennsylvania. She and her daughter plan to spend a weekend with us at the shore in the not-too-distant future. Marie sounded great.

Jack Finnigan was so kind as to drive Lucy and me to and from the airport when we went to the west coast. I've been trying to get together with him and Rose for dinner ever since. He's a tough guy to pin down . . . always on the go.

George King and I are on the horn twice a month or so. He is back in Phelps, NY where he grew up and lived for many years and where he has many friends. His youngest daughter lives in Rochester which is less than an hour away.

I'm often on the phone with Herb Hoepfner and Paul Giarraputo, both of whom report in as being in good health except for a few minor pains. Herb plays golf a few times a week, and Paul walks two or three miles a day faithfully.

My son Mark came across an interesting article in a legal journal recently about one of our more prominent members, Ed Johnstone. . . The Honorable Edward Johnstone, to be exact. The good judge was honored recently by the legal fraternity in Kentucky by having his portrait unveiled in the Federal courthouse in Louisville. Justice must have come to a standstill in Kentucky that day as every legal mind within five hundred miles attended the ceremony to honor the popular Federal District Court judge. The speakers were high in their praise for our old comrade-in-arms. With anecdote after anecdote these jurists recounted the many legal exploits of the judge. He was certainly well thought of in

## ILLINOIS CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

Just returned from our Annual Fall Mini Reunion with the Michigan Chapter. It was a smaller than usual turnout but all present enjoyed themselves. The weather was beautiful, sunny and dry and a little cool. It was a little too early for the fall color change. The Illinois Chapter hosted this year and received a lot of help from all attending. As usual there was more than enough food furnished by everyone. No one could go away hungry. Of course the drinking has cut down considerably so the soda pop and juices were flowing in abundance along with a little beer.

We had members from Michigan, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Minnesota as well as guests of some of the members. We had the widows of four of our members with us and it's always a pleasure to see them.

The dinner was held on Wednesday evening and David Heller was our Master of Ceremonies. The hotel erred on the time for serving dinner so David had to call on Bill Martin and Barney Tobacco to help fill in the time. We heard many interesting stories and jokes. We also had all present stand, state their names, outfits and home town.

After eating a delicious meal, we all adjourned to the Hospitality Room for a raffle run by Marion Anderson. Marge Sallee won the electric Ceramic Christmas Tree which was donated by the Andersons. The second and third prizes were won by the Sagers of Ohio — two bottles of liquid refreshments.

Barney Tobacco and his wife followed with a drawing for pumpkins and fall decorations. They had a total of 21 items so there were many winners.

A good time was had by all and we parted company this morning looking forward to next year's October Reunion which will be October 13th and 14th, same hotel. Michigan will host next year and more details will be in future issues. Hope more can attend.

### Here 'n There

Paul and Lorraine Clark had to cancel out last minute as Paul ended up in the hospital last week with an upper respiratory condition and other complications. He was supposed to be released on Tuesday but it was a little too soon to travel. Get well quick Paul — it wasn't the same without you two there.

Wanda Preston had to cancel out also due to some medical problems. We all send our best wishes for a speedy recovery.

We also heard from the Clausers who were unable to attend due to the fact that they will be leaving for Florida earlier this year.

Best wishes and good luck to the Hennemuths who have now purchased a home in Hudson, Florida. They will be leaving the end of this month to spend the winter in Florida.

We are sad to report the death of our dear friend, and wife of the late Chuck Koskie, Irma. Irma had a stroke several years ago and has been hanging in there but passed away on August 6, 1997.

On July 29th and 30th, we were in Madison, Wisconsin at the Ramada Inn for our annual reunion. Our ranks are thinning there also. Present were the Andersons, Vera Carpenter, Clausers, Gaertners, Hellers, Helms, Sallee, Ted Curless and the Belmontes.

We held Memorial Services on July 30th at the grave of Mike Carpenter. The services were conducted by me with opening words by John Clauser and prayers led by David Heller. Ted Curless and Owen Sallee were the flag bearers.

That evening we all went out to dinner together after enjoying the cocktail hour hosted by the hotel. No plans have been made for next year as the hotel is changing hands. Also, since we normally went in May, we will have to pick another time since the National Reunion is the beginning of May. More later.

At a meeting held in Angola, we were discussing plans for the Holiday Party. Nothing definite was decided but we will be looking into the same arrangements as last year of a local hotel for December 6th. As more details are available, the members will be notified.

We did talk to Henry Santos' wife, Eva, last week. He has been in a nursing home now for five weeks. He is improving slowly — his speech is returning a little but he still cannot get around. Henry, hurry and get better.

Happy Holidays to all and may we all be blessed with good health and happiness.

Mike Belmonte  
1161 South Lombard  
Oak Park, IL 60304

his field. Mark and I visited him in Louisville in 1993, and I must say he gave new meaning to the term "hospitality." We wish the ole sarge many years of carefree pleasure to enjoy with Kay and his grandchildren. Though I doubt that he'll ever retire from the bench, I hope going senior judge will lessen his load enough for him to relax in these coming years.

On a sadder note, Charley McIlerny called to report that Bob Colflesh passed away last week after a gallant battle. Bob was an E Company man who was always present in the E-F Company CP. I also learned that Googy Guglielmino of F & G Companies was recently taken to the Vets Hospital on Long Island. Good luck, Googie!

Edward Hopkins  
110 Hollywood Avenue  
Metuchen, New Jersey  
08840-2116

## New York Area Chapter Report Fall Fun

The New York Chapter held its first fall meeting after the summer hiatus at the Friar Tuck Inn/Resort in Catskill, NY on September 17, 1997 during the chapter's mini reunion, September 14-18.

The 4-day get-together was organized by chapter president Al Lipton, and Alphonse and Genevieve Zenka, who worked diligently over the year on the project. The NY chapter owes our mini reunion committee kudos for their effort. Nestled in the majestic New York mountains, the Friar Tuck provided excellent dining, comfortable accommodations, variety of activities, relaxation and nightly entertainment for Ninthmen, wives, and friends. The weather was beautiful and a good time was had by all.

### Meeting Time

Twenty-four members attended a meeting called for 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, September 17, and was presided over by Prez Lipton. After the pledge of allegiance, invited guest, Reverend Hugh C. Whitaker (60th), who lives in Saugerties, NY, gave the invocation. Secretary Art Schmidt read the last minutes of the June meeting. Treasurer Al Zenka gave the financial report and noted that 63 members were at this mini-reunion. Prez Lipton then read the recent correspondence received by the chapter. Invited former NY resident George and Janet Brown, now living in Virginia, wrote that they were sorry that they were unable to attend the get-together. Sadly, over the summer we lost some of our comrades: Mrs. Anthony Sordill informed us that member Dr. Anthony Sordill had died after an illness since March. The Wax family notified us that past chapter president Harry Wax had passed away. Until his illness a few years ago Harry had been a very active member. Adolph Wadalavage's wife Margaret also passed away after a long illness. Our heartfelt condolences go out to the families of their departed loved ones.

On sick call, we were informed that shortly after Margaret's funeral, Adolph Wadalavage was hospitalized for an acute leg infection, but is on the mend now. John Morris had extensive surgery for a serious abdominal condition and is undergoing chemotherapy. Mrs. Bill Hayes notified us that Bill was debilitated by ongoing memory loss. To our ailing members we wish them better days of well being.

Attending Philadelphia native past-national 9th president Al Perna gave some details of the next association's 53rd Reunion in Hampton, Va., May 5-7-8, 1998 (which will be seen elsewhere in the Octofoil). Anton Dietrich celebrated his birthday on the 17th with a surprise birthday cake from the chapter at close of the meeting.

### Memorial Service

After the meeting a memorial service was held for our departed comrades of World War II and those Ninthmen who have since passed on. Some reflective thoughts were expressed to the assembly by Al Lipton, Dan Quinn and Tony Varone. Al Zenka read the names of the 9th members buried in NY local VA national cemeteries. Reverend Whitaker gave the benediction.

After close of the memorial service Prez Lipton reminded members of the next meeting which would be held at our regular command post on the October 17, at the Masonic Hall, 71 W. 23rd St., NYC at 7:30 p.m.

The annual pilgrimage to Worcester would occur on the next day, Saturday, the 18th and the memorial mass would be on Sunday, the 19th.

### October Meeting

The October 17 meeting brought out many enthusiastic NY chapter members. There was the usual opening ceremonies, the secretary's minutes and treasurer's report. Prez Al Lipton was gratified to hear nothing but praise for the Friar Tuck mini reunion. The Friar Tuck wrote Lipton to consider recommending the inn/resort to hold the national 9th reunion there in the future.

Correspondence was read from Trevor Jones, John Kocay, Mrs. Minerva Stargis and Mrs. William Steer. Members reported many regular attending comrades are ailing: Joe Brody in hospital with kidney disease, Vincent Gulielmino recently released from hospital with a heart condition. Also ill: Gerald Levinson and John Parisi. Our energetic president Al Lipton has carried out all his office duties — and more — hobbling with a cane, while awaiting another possible second knee replacement. Needless to say, we hope all our comrades know better days. On a brighter note we were heartened by the return presence of two previous ailing ninthmen, Herminio Suarez and Adolph Wadalavage.

Meeting was adjourned 9 p.m. and we all partook of the hospitality table. Attending members not mentioned above: George Apar, Tony DeRobertis, Marty Gross, Jack Holuboff, Joe Killen, Emil Langer, Marv Levy, Charlie LiBretto, Al Lubrano, Dan Quinn, Art Schmidt, Tony Varone and Al Zenka.

A last reminder for NY Chapter members: don't forget to send in our donations for the Christmas 50-50 Raffle Fund Raiser! Those NY area members who haven't sent in their dues yet — its \$10 for 1 yr, \$25 for 3 yrs, and \$75 for Lifetime membership. Make checks payable to the Greater NY Chapter, 9th Inf. Div. Assn. and send to Arthur R. Schmidt, Secretary, 90-12 Doran Avenue, Glendale, NY 11385.

Marv Levy  
Co A 60th  
2044 Ellen Drive  
Merrick, NY 11566-5404



# FLORIDA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

**THE BEST CHAPTER REUNION:** These words summed up the sentiments of all who attended the September 18, 19, 20 and 21 Florida Chapter reunion held in Kissimmee, Florida. Other complimentary remarks were "What a great show," "Well Organized," "The food, service and entertainment were superb," . . . and others that complimented the Reunion Committee for their dedication and a job well done.

On Thursday night, Sept. 18th, the Manager of the HONG KONG FLORIDA Restaurant had a special table set-up for the group. Roast beef, Turkey and Salmon cooked American Style were added to the Chinese menu. The All-You-Can-Eat buffet included ice cream and an assortment of delicious desserts. Back at the Hospitality Room, LeRoy Miller led a sing-along of war-time songs. Video tapes of previous National Memorial Services were played. Jean Baudouy made sure that there was plenty of snacks and all kinds of drinks.

The Reunion Committee voted to have a Continental Breakfast for Friday and Saturday morning. . . and so Jean Baudouy went shopping for orange juice, cake, doughnuts, coffee and all the other condiments including a commercial size coffee urn.

After the Friday Breakfast, those who wished to take in the near-by attractions did so while others went to the malls or to any one of the many suggestions as supplied by the Kissimmee Chamber of Commerce literature. At 6:00 p.m., the group went to the WILD BILL ATTRACTION where they were served a delicious chicken dinner with all the trimmings while viewing a two hour variety Western Show. Back to the Hospitality Room by 9:30 p.m. where the group joined together in their sing-a-long. . . joke telling . . . drinking. . . socializing. . . and yes, more snacking until 11:30 p.m.

## Business Meeting

The Saturday morning coffee and doughnuts was held from 7:30 to 9:30. Gil Pernokas woke Audrey DeDonato up at 6:30 a.m. to make sure that she would have the coffee ready in time. Because the Men's and Women's business meetings were scheduled for 10:00 a.m., no coffee was served after 9:30. Chapter President Richard Baudouy called the Men's Business Meeting to order promptly at 10:00. Jimmy Driscoll led the group in prayer as the regular Chaplain Joe Kearns couldn't make this meeting due to illness. Some of the highlights of the business meeting were: Charles Van Der Poel will Chair the 1998 Chapter Reunion. . . Jimmy Driscoll was appointed as the new Florida Chapter Chaplain. . . Because Orlando area is centrally located, it should take priority in holding future Florida Chapter Mini-Reunions.

Public Relations Officer, Emil DeDonato, presented a 1989 to 1996 survey he made showing the names of members who attended the past Florida Chapter Reunions, their frequency of attendance in addition to other pertinent information. The survey revealed that 23 Florida Chapter Members passed away during this 1989 to 1996 time frame. A question and answer period followed Emil's presentation. Newly elected President Richard Baudouy did a superb job in conducting the meeting. With no further business to be discussed, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

At 6:00 p.m. Saturday, the group met in the large ballroom for dinner. The INN AT MAINGATE Chef and his staff served a choice of Prime Rib; Breast of Turkey; or Salmon to over 40 people. Newly appointed Chaplain Jimmy Driscoll said a prayer of thanksgiving also honoring our deceased comrades. President Baudouy thanked the members and their wives, friends and guests for attending. He introduced Joseph Eska of Company M 60th Infantry who joined the Chapter during this mini-reunion. President Baudouy presented Bertha Carson with a Memorial plaque in honor of her deceased husband Sewell "Bill" Carson who passed away July 19, 1997. Baudouy asked Peter Radichio to take a bow for returning to the Florida Chapter Membership roll. Peter was one of the Florida Chapter Charter members during the formation of the Chapter. Richard Baudouy called upon Ret. Gen. Lewis Maness to say a few words about his recent visit to the Normandy Beachheads. About 7:30 p.m. Chapter Pres. Baudouy introduced Steve Champagne, a one-man human dynamo entertainer. For better than 2 1/2 hours, Steve Champagne had the audience laughing. . . dancing. . . participating in a group sing-a-long but most of all listening and watching his antics while performing his rendition to different songs. It was truly a tremendous and enjoyable show which caused many attendees to say, "This was the best Florida Chapter Reunion to date."

The Reunion Committee worked hard during the preparations of this reunion. Their only reward is to see people enjoying themselves and to have more members attend. In an effort to increase participation, the Florida Chapter Members are urged to invite their family and friends to future Chapter Reunions. Any member of the National Organization who wishes to receive next year's notice of the Florida Chapter's reunion may do so by dropping a note to Emily J. DeDonato, 3650 S. W. Mosswood Street, Dunnellon, FL 34431 or phone 352/489-4070.

## Member News

**Henry Santos:** At the time of this writing, Henry continues to improve healthwise. His wife Eva, can be reached at 813/985-5444 or write: 9811 Connechusette Rd. North, Tampa, FL 33617. (Henry is now in the VA Hospital.)

# TEXAS & THE GREATER SOUTHWEST CHAPTER

John W. Miller returned from the 52nd Annual Reunion in Louisville, Kentucky, reporting the Chapter was represented by seventeen members and a number of spouses.

Attending were Bob Alberter, Jack Blann, Ernie Botella, Stan Downs, Dick Granbery, Don Lewis, Ken Meyer, John Miller, Charles Newton, Pete Rice, Charles Scheffel, Bill Scott, Roscoe Shields, Richard Solar, Herb Stern, Ray White, and Brayton Willis.

The proposed tours of France and Germany in 1998, as announced by John Miller at the Louisville, KY meeting, have elicited recommendations from members as to specific towns and areas they would like included in the tours. While the 9th Inf Div Assn should not and cannot endorse private undertakings, John Miller did serve and work with Lt. Col. Bruce Murphy in Europe and knows of his military proficiency. That organization ability seems to have translated into his second career in the Travel Industry.

Ernie Botella, our current Chapter President, addressed the annual meeting with an invitation to have the annual meeting in Houston, Texas, in 1999. After the meeting some of the members approached Ernie and suggested we go back to San Antonio, Texas, for the 1999 Reunion. That alternative will be explored.

Some of us really retire and then there is Bill "Bub" Lynch. After serving a lifetime as minister and subsequently District Manager of over seventy churches (Church of the Nazarine), he recently spent several weeks in the Texas Hill country filling in for a minister.

With the untimely death of Phil Emmons, John W. Miller has joined the Association's Board of Governors.

The Board of Governors will meet to determine the dispositions of the Association's funds when, and if, the Association closes in the year 2000. The Board would appreciate the suggestions of the members and they should be sent to John W. Miller, 1511 Cochise Drive, Arlington, Texas, 76012.

Being somewhat housebound taking care of my wife, would appreciate information from our Chapter members to include in forthcoming issues of the OCTOFOIL.

Gordon A. Schneider  
4001 Fort Branch Drive  
Arlington, TX 76016-3212  
(817) 457-0226

## Peter J. Dalessandro, won Medal of Honor in WWII

LATHAM — Medal of Honor winner Peter J. Dalessandro, 79, of Latham, died at home after being stricken.

Born and educated in Watervliet, Mr. Dalessandro lived in Latham since 1967.

During World War II, he enlisted in the Army and served in Europe. He was a technical sergeant with Co. E of the 39th Infantry of the 9th Infantry Division. On Dec. 22, 1944, in Kalterherberg, Germany, Mr. Dalessandro was wounded and captured in the action that also earned him the nation's highest award for bravery.



**Joseph Eska:** New Member. 10612 Crimson Lane, New Port Richey, FL 34655 Company M, 60th Infantry. Regular member John Elichco is responsible to introduce Joe Eska to our Chapter.

Sewell "Bill" Carson: deceased on July 29, 1997. See story on other page of this issue.

**Membership Roster:** A new membership roster is being worked on by William Fleming. The new roster is being planned to include as many telephone numbers as possible. Bill will appreciate your co-operation in sending him not only your phone number but your complete address especially those of you who had a change in address. Send your correspondence to William Fleming, 7861 Prayer Drive West, Jacksonville, FL 32217 or phone: 904/733-1877.

**Women's Auxiliary:** In the absence of Pres. Lila Stansell who was attending the Company M 60th Infantry reunion with her husband, the Women's Business Meeting was chaired by Sec./Treas. Audrey DeDonato. The Polyana gifts brought in by the women were raffled off. Dues were collected. The women voted to donate \$300.00 to the Lake City, Florida V.A. Hospital for the personal needs of the recuperating veterans. Audrey DeDonato reported that the Women's Treasury is in good standing.

Emil J. DeDonato,  
3650 S.W. Mosswood St.  
Dunnellon, FL 34431  
Phone: 352/489-4070

# NEW JERSEY CHAPTER

Frank Haines attended the Memorial Service in Worcester this weekend, and when he returns, we'll get together to plan our next meeting, which will be a luncheon meeting as usual. We will be sending notices out shortly, so be on the lookout for them, and respond promptly if you plan to attend.

We haven't had much activity this past year, mainly due to sick call. I promise to stay healthy this year. . . but then, I had planned to stay healthy last year. As the poet said, "The best laid plans of mice and men often go awry." We may never be able to get an interesting speaker for this upcoming meeting.

Besides Frank, who was kind enough to visit me a couple times in the hospital, the only Ninth Division men that I have been in contact with are those with whom I served in F Company of the 47th.

When you receive your notice of the meeting, try to contact one of your old buddies and bring him in the fold. I'm looking forward to a fruitful meeting.

Ed Hopkins

## Taps Sounded

Call out our names  
as the years go by —  
Remember us —  
and we will never die.

With sadden heart we announce the passing of these "Old Reliabilities" and friends.

Clarence Watson  
39th Inf. K Co.

William Stokan  
K Co. 47th Inf.

Sewell "Bill" Carson  
Hq. Co. 9th Med.

Joseph O'Reilly  
Co. D 60th Inf.

Robert Colflesh  
E Co. 47th Inf.

William A. Green  
Co. L 47th Inf.

William Steer  
Div. Hdqs.

Edward McHugh  
84th F.A. B Btry

Jack Shinn  
D Co. 47th Inf.

Earle Garrison  
Bty C 60th FA

Lawrence Goodwin  
G Co. 39th Inf.

Elton Harrell  
60th Inf. F Co.

Peggy Wadalavage  
Wife of Adolph Wadalavage, M.P.s

Matthew McCormack  
60th Inf. D Co.

Harry Wax  
39th Inf.

**60th Inf. F. Co.**  
CATHERINE HURRILL  
Rt. 2 Box 1070  
Hazelhurst, Ga. 31539

With regrets we lost our loving husband, father and grandfather, Elton L. Hurrill, Co. F 60 In. August 5, 1997. He had leukemia we were told in October 1996. Please print in the Octofoil. I'm sure he would like for his Army friends to know.  
Thanks.

## TO FELLOW 9TH INF. DIV. ASSN. MEMBERS:

For many years I have thought how great it would be to travel back to Europe and retrace, as much as possible, the route our division followed as it advanced from Utah Beach, thru France and Belgium, into the heart of Germany. Earlier this year I made a commitment to quit simply day-dreaming about such a trip and turn it into a reality. Thus was born the outstanding tours that have now been developed (exclusively for members of the 9th Infantry Division Association) for the month of September, 1998.

Tour #1, from September 11th thru 20th, 1998, will cover, in depth, the Normandy beaches and Paris. In addition to seeing all of the famous sites in and in close proximity to Paris, visits will also be made to Utah Beach, Cherbourg, St. Lo, Alencon, Tours, Etampes and Arpajon. Overnight stops, in fine first class hotels, will be for two nights in Paris and Honfleur and for one night in Rouen, Mont Saint Michel, St. Malo and Orleans.

A highlight of Tour #2, from September 19th thru 28th, 1998, will be the visit to the area in which the "Battle of the Bulge" was fought. This tour will provide overnight hotel stops for four nights in Cologne, three nights in Luxembourg and the final night in the beautiful city of Wiesbaden. Many other historic sights and cities will be visited, including: Remagen, Wetzlar, Bastogne, Marburg, The Hurtgen Forest, Rudessheim, Kassel and Maastricht. This tour includes an afternoon cruise on a Rhine River steamer and a visit to the US Cemetery and Memorial at Magaraten.

Some will probably want to take in both tours. Thus a tour #3 has been developed which will include both tour #1 and #2. Tour #3 will begin on September 12th and end on September 28th. Those on this tour will travel from Paris to Cologne, Germany by train on September 19th to join up with those beginning tour #2. The approximate six hour train ride, from Paris to Cologne, will give the travelers many closeup and varied views of the European countryside.

The following are included in the reasonable tour prices (which are special reduced group rates): Full breakfast daily; dinner each evening; English speaking tour escort throughout; guided sightseeing with English speaking guides; and roundtrip airfare from New York or Chicago for tours #1 and #2. Add on fares are available from all major airports.

Per person prices for tours #1 and #2 vary from \$1,953 to \$2,195, depending on the number of paying passengers. Prices for tour #3 (which combines tours #1 and #2) range from \$3,185 to \$3,625 per person, again, depending on how many go on the tours. The extra, per person, charge for a single supplement for tours #1 and #2 is \$435 and \$760 for tour #3.

I want to emphasize that these are not "off the shelf," "run-of-the-mill" packaged tours, offered to the general public. Rather, they have been carefully, completely and individually tailored for the 9th Infantry Division Association. All major credit cards will be accepted.

To receive full printed information by mail, simply call Bruce Murphy of Bruce Murphy Travel, Little Rock, Arkansas - Phone, Toll Free - #1 (888) 988-8844.

Of course, you are more than welcome to call me, personally, for more details and for my own views and ideas regarding these fantastic tours.

This is a once in a lifetime opportunity! I do hope that you will take advantage of this chance to visit, with your dear friends and comrades, these historic areas that are certainly indelibly present in your memories.

Most Sincerely,  
John W. Miller  
1511 Cochise Drive,  
Arlington, TX 76012  
Phone: (817) 274-2773

## Taps Sounded

The Florida Chapter together with the National Organization mourn the death of "Bill" Carson at age 82. Sewell "Bill" Carson, a retired employee of the Ford Motor Company, died Tuesday, July 29, 1997 at the Homes Regional Medical Center in Melbourne, Florida. He served in Hq. Co. 9th Medics during WWII.

Bill served on the National Organization's Board of Governor's in 1994. Bill and his wife Bertha attended many National Reunions over the past 50 years. Bill was an active Florida Chapter member who was always willing to help whenever asked.

Survivors include his wife Bertha Carson, a son, daughter, two brothers, a sister and two grandchildren. No local services were scheduled. Burial was held in Somerset, New Jersey. Bill and Bertha made their home at 1632 West Shores Road, Melbourne, FL 32935.

Emil J. De Donato

## K Company 47th Inf.

BASTEDO is crying about the crops in the GARDEN STATE suffering from a lack of rain. He foresees high prices and inferior quality on food imported from NY and PA. GEORGE, you wouldn't believe it, but here, in the tropical rain forest we haven't had any rain in three weeks. Its good for golf but our lake is covered in algae you can walk on.

No they don't have twenty mile hikes anymore unless there is a load of female recruits at the other end. When the NEW ARMY moves it drives, floats, or flies.

RED said he saw dead Kraut horses several times. I wonder if we were in the same outfit? BASTEDO hadn't. RED and ETHEL are trying to ride out the heat until the snow falls and then they'll go to Vegas to get out of the cold.

HELEN and AL had a gay old time celebrating one of AL's grade school classmate's 60th. year as a nun. She is Mother Superior of a nursing home which gave HELEN almost enough wheel chairs to push. She says the NUNS cut a mean rug. They got their drinking started for their trip to the Bahamas in November.

Dr. GEORGE said he found out he was in my platoon for two days. That was enough time to discover what a chicken outfit it was. He said that the 9th. is being reactivated at FT. POLK. I have not been able to confirm this, but if it is, I'll run over there and see that they get started RIGHT.

JOE has been low sick with the Croup or Whopping Cough or some other infantile disease. A damn kid that goes through 7 months of combat in the Infantry without a PURPLE HEART to his name is living on borrowed time.

He sent a photo of the BELLE OF LOUISVILLE sitting on the OHIO bottom. I thought the water was coming in pretty fast when I flushed the toilet.

He has conquered the weather and his infirmity and is ready to hit the links. Don't blow any excuses, JOE.

He also sent a photo of the new Army Chief of Staff with his NINTH PATCH shinning forth. Joe says, no matter their accomplishments, neither the General nor Forest Gump, would ever get into our CLUB. If you weren't in DOUBLE-U DOUBLE-U EYE-EYE, forget it.

CHESTER H. JORDAN  
1058 West Lakeview Dr.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70810-4641

47th Inf. E Co.  
CHARLES McLHINNEY  
450 Green St.  
Havre De Grace, Md. 21078

Just a few lines to you and the other members for letting us be part of your memorial service at Worcester to the memory of the departed men of the 9th Division.

We feel it is both an honor and privilege to be with you at these very emotional events.

I was proud and humbled when Herb Olson asked me to assist him in presenting the floral wreath at the 9th Division Memorial.

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP  
MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION

(Act of October 23, 1962: Section 4369, Title 39, United States Code)

1. Date filed: 10/1/97 Title of Publication: THE OCTOFOIL.  
3. 5 times yearly: 4. Location of known office of publication: 412 Gregory Avenue, Weehawken, N.J. - Hudson County. 5. Location of headquarters or General Business Offices of the Publisher: 412 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, N.J. - Hudson County. 6. Name and address of the Publisher and Editor: Daniel Quinn, 412 Gregory Avenue, Weehawken, N.J.  
9. FOR COMPLETION BY NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS AUTHORIZED TO MAIL AT SPECIAL RATES (Section 411.3 DMM only) The purpose function and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for Federal income tax purposes (check one)

x (1) HAS NOT CHANGED DURING PRECEDING 12 MONTHS  
10. EXTENT AND NATURE OF CIRCULATION

	AVERAGE NO. COPIES EACH ISSUE DURING PRECEDING 12 MONTHS	ACTUAL NO. COPIES OF SINGLE ISSUE PUBLISHED NEAREST TO FILING DATE
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By Mail, Carrier or other means		
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G. TOTAL (Sum of E, F1 and 2-should equal net press run shown in A)	2400	2400
11. I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete.		

Daniel Quinn

## General Eddy

Some of the "Octos" will be interested in the status of **The Making of a Professional: Marton S. Eddy, USA**, the latest Phillips saga. The manuscript is complete and now being reviewed by a prominent publisher of military history. If it's turned down, I'll turn to self-publishing as I did with the other books I've done. The Eddy book is somewhat longer. It covers his entire lifetime from Chicago upbringing to his life in retirement at Columbus, Georgia. Probably the most interesting, and the most enjoyable for me to research and write about was General Eddy's time with the 9th — from training at Bragg to his promotion to command of XII Corps in late August '44; the period of the 9th's coming of age and proving itself as the best in the Army.

I've had much help with this book from a host of fellow veterans of the 9th in this time frame. But I sincerely believe that the book will be of value to young people starting out in the service of their country. Eddy was a "bootstrapper," his success was the result of his own efforts up to the moment he got his hands on the 9th.

We were the clay that he molded into a great fighting machine. Anyone who had anything to do with it has the enduring right to feel proud.

All best,  
Henry G. Phillips  
Lt. Col. USA (Ret.)  
14002 Hemlock Dr.  
Penn Valley, CA 95946

Co. M. 60th Inf.  
WILFRED M. THORNTON  
515 E. Dunbail St.  
South Bend, In 46613-2621

Enclosed news of our Mini Reunion. I want to thank you for the great work on behalf of the 9th Div. Association over these many years.

**Mini Reunion M.Co 60th Inf.**  
The 15th Mini Reunion of M. Co. 60th Inf. was held at Pigeon Forge, Tenn. in the Ramada Inn on Sept. 16, 17 and 18 of Sept., 1997. We will meet there again in 1998.

Pigeon Forge is a great place for a reunion. Always plenty to see and do.

Our hosts were WC and Nell Hornady and their committee, we had 43 people in attendance, the same as '96, in spite of the fact that we lost three more good buddies, Royal Edmark, Joe Di Duro and John Schettig. We have lost 22 since starting these mini-reunions in 1982. Hopefully we can continue for a few more years.

We had a couple newcomers from Florida. John Ahern and Everett Walling, Bob Sagner from Penn. and two daughters, hadn't seen him since 1990. The girls seemed to enjoy themselves and promised to come back next year.

We missed several of our old faithfuls due to sick "call." Allen and Mary Luce, Mac and Mary MacDonald, George Brum, Alexandria and John Bosko. Bob and Marge Bovanizer had a church celebration to attend.

**Remember the Dates**  
**May 5, 6, 7, 1998**  
**53rd Reunion**  
**Hampton, Va.**

### Seekin

JOE KILLEN, G47  
224 N. Grove St.  
Valley Stream, NY 11586

An Appeal to all of the men who were sent to the 47th Infantry Regiment via the S.S. LOUIS PASTEUR, crossing the Atlantic during January of 1945; and who survived through the end of the war.

Hey guys, "come out, come out, where-ever you are." The "old-timers" don't realize how many of us are out there. It makes no difference if we were not in on the beginning, because we more than paid our dues, in bodies and blood, before it was over. Of the 4581 KIAs that the 9th Inf. Div. claims to have lost; many, much to many, were our guys, who took only a one-way trip to the ETO on the PASTUER.

Wasn't that a fast ship? We went from our front door to the front lines in less than a month. From home to hell in 28 days. For the next three months the dues were collected; some days more than others. If you were with us at that time in the 47th, I don't have to explain; and if you weren't there, you'd never understand no matter how long I explained. Yes, we deserve to belong to the 9th Infantry Division Association. Now would be a good time to stand up and be counted.

One of us, George Brown, has been active for a long time, Bill Crane of Ohio, is another one that I see at the reunions; but I'm not looking for them. I'm looking for guys like my foxhole buddy Allen J. Kelley, Detroit to California; Hal Klatt from Milwaukee; "Jersey" Joe (JJ) Lennington; Dick Fabsitz, the Greek from Chicago; Nebraska Harley (Jim) Holwick, who made top-kick in F company. When I asked, "How come?" He said, "I guess because I was the only guy left." And that "old Texan" Cliff House, and Joe Miale from Brooklyn; and also these others that I did not see after I got back from the hospital and they are not listed in the regimental book among the other K.I.A.S. Ralph Moskowitz of Brooklyn, Earl Ridgeway of Brooklyn, Texas James King, Katchmer, Kinsey, Jones, and "Ruff-Tuff" Laflin; and last but not least, Kells from Pittsfield, Mass, who with me volunteered to swim Chippy's Roer River.

If anyone reading this has information on these men, living or dead, it would be greatly appreciated as I often wonder what twists and turns their lives took after we lost contact.

Thank you for listening.

**39th Inf.**  
STEPHEN WALSH  
17 Harvard Rd.  
Audubon, N.J. 08106

Herewith my three years dues plus, as you may need this to cover contributions to this great publication. My salutations to the 1941 "Early Birds" of Fort Bragg and all members of the Ninth.

Good luck to all and right now Virginia in '98 looks good, God willing.

**Company A**  
**9th Medical Bn. 39th C.T.**  
FRANK HOFFMAN  
207 Adams St.  
Centerport, N.Y. 11721

I am enclosing a newspaper clipping of the passing of our former Captain (Dr.) Anthony Sordill of Cranford, N.J. which his wife of 55 years (Melanie) sent me. I am sorry to say that only 2 years ago we became reacquainted and only wish we could have been reunited sooner. He became ill in March '97, cardiac failure, and succumbed on July 17th at age 86. I always remember him as a fine doctor and importantly as a gentleman. He was with A Company from 1942 at Bragg, Algiers, Tunisia, Sicily, England, France and sometime in '44 or '45 he was transferred to B. Co. 9th Medics. He was discharged Dec. 1945. He asked me recently if I had heard from Bill Kennedy or Eddie Fay. We exchanged some old snapshots and stories. He will be missed and remember fondly.

Regards to all you former G.I.s. Perhaps some of you will remember me, 79 yrs. old and feeling good.

P.S. For all of you who might possess our Ninth Division History "Eight Stars To Victory" Captain Sordill is pictured on Page 286 treating a wounded German Officer during the Bulge, Dec. '45.

### LETTER TO EDITOR

**M.P.'s 4 47th Inf.**  
KEN MEYER  
111 Greenbriar St.  
Belton, TX 76513-1503

In the latest issue of the Octofoil noted a few errors which need to be corrected.

General "Chip" Maness was appointed the first Honorary Colonel of our Regiment in 1997. He was instrumental in my appointment as Honorary Command Sergeant Major of the Regiment in 1988.

"Chip" resigned in the early 90's for medical reasons. He was replaced by Colonel Ray Inzer also of WW2's 2nd Battalion.

Colonel Inzer also resigned in the mid 1990's because of medical problems. Since then the Regiment has been without an Honorary Colonel.

The 2nd Battalion of the 47th Infantry is stationed at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri.

The 2nd Battalion will host a ceremony on the 20th of November. This year in which both a new Honorary Colonel and Honorary Command Sergeant Major will be inducted. Both have served in the Regiment and both are retired.

You know — with 24 Battle Streamers adorning the Regimental Colors, Six Presidential Unit Citations, Two Valorous Awards, Six Citations from Foreign Governments for Gallantry in Battle, The French Croix de Guerre, the Belgium Fourraguerre, The Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Palm and 2 Congressional Medal of Honor winners, our Regiment is one of the most decorated Regiments in the United States Army.

LONG LIVE THE REGIMENT.

**Co. C 47th.**  
JACK A. COLLIER  
126 St. John Ave.  
St. Louis, Mo. 63119

Enclosed is check for 98-99 and 2000 dues. I also want to remember the Memorial Fund in the names of two great 60th men, Mike Kauffman and Matt Urban. I had the honor of getting to be friends with both of these great soldiers. Louisville, Ky. was another good Reunion, my 27th. Nadine and I recently attended a M.O.P.H. convention in Tampa, Fl. which was well attended and we both enjoyed ourselves very much. This was our 5th one so we have made some good friends there also. On the back of the Patriot Magazine was our Octofoil and some History of our 9th Inf. Div. I don't know if they were correct in printing that the 9th is on active duty with Headquarters at Fort Polk, Louisiana. I do know for sure that the 2nd Bn 47th Regt. is at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. I was there April 15, 1996 with Kenney Meyers and Col. Ray Inzer. Early this month Nadine and I went to Fort Leonard Wood and were well received by LC Mark Zodda the Commander of the 2nd Bn 47th. We had a nice visit, but was disappointed when Mark told us he would be leaving in Sept. for another duty assignment. Those of you that missed our Reunion this year were MISSED, make Va. next year. I look forward to the Reunions each year and seeing you great old Soldiers. It was good seeing some of the fellows that haven't attended for awhile.

See you in Va.

**Co. E 39th Inf.**  
MANUEL J. GRAJEDA  
3651 Claremore Ave.  
Long Beach, CA, 90808-3106

Mr. Quinn - I read in the Octofoil awhile back that a POW Medal was to be issued, I've been writing to Gen. Serv's Nat'l Personnel Records without no decent answer as to why, I can't receive it. Now I've got my Congressman Ed Royce trying to help me on this. I don't know even why they kept my discharge papers and even my morning report of the counterattack, right after they (Germans) took me in. This all happened 3-18-45 at a village called Windhagen, Germany other side of the Rhine River.

I know it's been a lot of years since, but, them people, I don't know who, just again won't give me an answer. I did get a letter today (Oct. 10th) that there was no record, if no record why. Mr. Quinn somethings not right. I even wrote to my buddy, who recaptured me, there.

His name John Sabato 2743 Snyder Ave., Phila., Pa., 19145. He was listed on the morning report about the incident.

I was with the 9th Inf. Div. 39th Reg't. Co. E. #39590361. There was another G.I. Buddy POW at that time did not get his name.

Would you Mr. Quinn try to give me the answer concerning this, I would appreciate very much. Thank You. Please let me know.

Many of us lead a daze to day's existence.

**Co. F 60th Inf.**  
DONALD E. CRASS  
2295 Strong Rd.  
Phelps, WI 54554-9486

Just a few lines for the Octofoil. I would like to see some articles on Night Fighting which was very effective. Saving lives on both sides. I am glad we had good leaders that knew where they were going as the rest of us just followed in hopes of getting there to get the job done. I know I myself felt more at ease than fighting in the day time. I can remember going to Widdan, as we hit the outskirts of the town we caught a company of Germans in their trenches without firing a shot.

Around this time we fought in cooks uniforms which worked very well as long as one had a white background. One could sneak upon them without being seen.

In Eight Stars to Victory page 300 it shows us going down a fire break. The snow was around knee deep. I often wondered how we could take all that cold sleeping in it, eating in it. I guess we were in very good shape then.

I can't remember just when we started to use artificial moon light but it had to be around this time also. This worked good for us as it made our path light while the enemy was looking into the light and couldn't see us coming.

Let's hear from some of you guys who were there also. Company F 60th wasn't the only one there.

**60th Inf. E Co.**  
CHARLES SNYDER  
597 Riverside Dr.  
Battle Creek, Mi. 49015

Just a few lines to let you know the age of miracles has not passed. It has been over fifty years since I returned to my home here and during all that time I had never met anyone from the 9th, but in the last month I have met three. One from "D" Co. 60th, one from "M" Co. 60th and yesterday I called one from "K" Co. 39th.

As impossible as it may seem, the one from "M" Co. lives on my street about two blocks. The one from "D" Co. 60th seen by 9th car sticker and waited for me to introduce himself. He was an original from Fort Bragg and served from Fort Bragg to the outside of the Rhine where he was wounded and sent stateside. In talking to the fellow found "M" Co., as impossible as it seems, he was with the "D" Co. man when he was hit.

I am enclosing their names and data, maybe it might be possible to send them a copy of the Octofoil's next issue. They indicated they might like to join the Association, and we need all the new blood we can get.

Hope to see you at the Hampton Inn next year. Good health to all and early "Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year."

**Remember the Dates**  
**May 5, 6, 7, 1998**  
**53rd Reunion**  
**Hampton, Va.**

A psychiatrist's coach is where you land — when you go off your rocker.

### Seeking

**47th Inf. F Co.**  
JOSEPH BERGIN  
P.O. Box 686  
Grantham, N.H. 04753

Last June, my wife and I were in Switzerland, visiting friends and we ended our trip with a visit to Normandy and the American cemetery. Needless to say, the cemetery visit was extremely emotional, looking at the graves with the 9th Division names engraved.

I went into the office and asked about three names of close friends from "F" Company, to see if any were buried at the cemetery. The names I asked about were, Delmar Petesch, Doc Savage from Maine, and Tony Zuk. No records were available for Savage or Peter's, but Tony's name appeared. When asked if we would like to visit the grave, the cemetery officer called to a worker, who could not speak English, and he took us in a golf cart to Tony's resting place. As I was getting ready to take a picture, the worker put a compound in the letters, so that the name would show up better in a picture. I was pleasantly surprised, when the picture was developed and the names appear in gold.

Now, my question. I talked with Ed Hopkins and he did not know of any Zuk family. He remembered Tony, but did not know anything other than he was from New York. I thought possibly you might have the answer. The Registry records at the cemetery show that Anthony Zuk, was from New York and his Army serial number was 32002366 and he was KIA on June 30, 1944. I knew that Tony had been recommended for a Congressional Medal, however he did receive a DSC.

My thought was that if there was family, I would drop a note or give a call, telling that I visited the grave and have pictures for them.

I hope that this finds you and Marie, well. With best wishes.

ANTON C. WRATNEY  
1812 Jrestle Glen Rd.  
Piedmont, CA 94610  
(510) 530-6166

Went to the 50th Anniversary D-Day with Galaxie Tours — was delighted to see many 9th Div. people. Had a nice chat with John Losnes of Orange, Ct. He promised to send me a copy of the Octofoil, which he did. So I clipped the application and it is enclosed along with \$10.

He also said to get in touch with R.D. Moore of Dayton, Ohio if I wanted a directory. So I wrote but never heard from him. Would appreciate your help.

**Hqs. Btry. Div. Artillery**  
ARTHUR L. CROWE, Jr.  
166 Anderson Street  
Suite 111  
Marietta, GA 30060

I have either misplaced or lost my copy of "Eight Stars to Victory." I have searched everywhere without success. I would appreciate it if any of your readers or our members could tell me where I might get a copy. Thanks.



### The Battle of Thala

On February 22, 1943 the morning was cloudy. The history books say it was overcast in the morning, clearing before noon so our air force could give us support. I saw no such support, the Luftwaffe bombed us, Stukas dive-bombed us and I did see an RAF plane shot down.

We had come through four days of continuous convoy travel with very little time for sleep, meals, or the pit stops that are necessary on long trips. As we came closer to what proved to be our destination we passed a stream of laden ambulances going to the rear. "Shake them up," someone called out to us out of one ambulance.

On the night of the 20th we had stopped at Constantine and had a good hot meal. Raymond Peque called this "The Last Supper." We didn't know what we were facing when we bedded down on the night of the 21st. We had vaguely heard of the U.S. army being beaten at Kasserine Pass, we didn't know that Rommel was trying to split the Allied Armies and prolong the African campaign indefinitely. In the dark our anti-tank crew had tried to sleep with very little success. We huddled to keep warm, again unsuccessfully. We were up with the dawn and found ourselves in a valley. Ahead was a ring of hills.

We were a thirty-seven millimeter anti-tank platoon. In previous battles our guns had proven worthless, so we were there as spectators.

Ed Winsch, 1st Sergeant of "C" Battery of the 84th Field Artillery Battalion was at a forward position and met a Sergeant Ainsley of the British Army. They saw an enemy motorcyclist and blazed away at him, Winsch with a tommy gun and Ainsley with an Enfield 03 rifle. Winsch was sure that Ainsley got him. They retrieved his dispatches from his body. Ainsley was able to translate them. They were to inform Rommel that U.S. artillery was massed in the valley.

Winsch returned to "C" Battery to inform Captain (later General) McGomigle of their find. Back in states, the day before their guns were cosmolined for the overseas trip. "C" Battery on its own had practiced direct anti-tank fire with its Howitzers.

J.E. EDDY JR.  
8034 Poplar Lane  
Carmel, California 93923  
In the March-April issue Charlie Hoffman (15th Eng.Bn.) of Woodhaven, NY., wonders about the 9th's involvement with the Russians, first contact, etc.

Tell Charlie, and anyone else interested to read Lindsey Nelson's books, "Hello Everybody! I'm Lindsey Nelson." He covers his experience with the Russians starting on page 115.

The book was published in 1995 by Beech Tree Books/Williams Morrow, NY.

For those who may not be aware, Lindsey was Division PRO.

All communications with Battalion HQ were out so it was necessary to get the HQ in person to propose to Colonel Stoll that "C" Battery move to the top of the hill to face the German Panzers. Permission was granted and the guns were moved. The Germans unleashed a barrage knocking out two of the guns.

This move by the Howitzers stumped the enemy. No one had ever used Howitzers in this manner. "C" Battery rewrote the training manuals.

Meanwhile the massed U.S. Artillery was blazing away, British tanks sacrificed themselves to put on a show of strength. The German attack ground to a halt. Rommel came forward to study the situation and decided that he was facing a powerful foe. We had bluffed him with a thin line of British Infantry, our artillery in the valley and especially "C" Battery on the hill. Rommel halted, retreated, the battle was over. The battlefield was ours.

There was much that was unique about the Battle of Thala. For once the artillery was the front line and the infantry a very rear echelon. The battle was the first victory for Americans over Germans in World War II. Without doubt the 9th Division Artillery won the victory. It also marked the last gasp on th Africa Corps. Though they defended stubbornly they were never again an offensive threat. Historians have referred to the ingenuity of "C" Battery in going face to face with the Panzers and winning.

Ward Rutherford, British military historian, in his book "Kasserine, Baptism of Fire" compared the march of the 9th Div. Arty to Marshall Blucher's march to Waterloo in support of the Duke of Wellington. It turned the tide of battle and put an end to Napoleon's ambition.

The 84th field along with the balance of Div. Arty received a unit citation for this battle. In addition the 84th as part of the 47th Combat team was awarded a unit citation at Remagen and might well be the only artillery unit with two such citations. While a puny battle among the many great struggles of WW II, Thala was a turning point leading to a string of successful operations: North Africa, Sicily, France, Belgium, Germany and the war's end.

All in all, a remarkable day and one I'll never forget.

**84th FA**  
AARON LUBIN  
69-10D 188 St.  
Fresh Meadows, NY 11365

**9th Med. C Co**  
CHALMUS L. COCHRAN  
P.O. Box 06  
Cherry Log, GA 30522

This contribution is for the MEMORIAL FUND in memory of WALTER A. SAMMONS, Co. "C", 9th Medical Ban. who was my best friend from Port Lyautey through WWII and after, until he passed away on Jan. 15th, 1996. His wit, and photographs of "our guys" and War scenes will always be remembered by Co. "C"

### Hospital should honor veteran, not politician

When the Veterans' Hospital was built at the Medical Center in Detroit, letters were sent to representatives and senators with one request: that the new facility be named in honor of Lt. Col. Matt Urban, perhaps the most decorated soldier in U.S. history. An early reply from Rep. Sander Levin, D-Royal Oak, informed us that it was a long-standing policy of the Veterans Administration not to name such facilities after an individual.

So we were surprised to see President Bill Clinton announce that the Veterans Center will be formally named for Rep. John Dingell, D-Dearborn ("Center renamed for Dingell," July 9). This was a big disappointment, and we're wondering what happened to that long-standing policy. It appears that it's another case of politics.

It is sad that this honor in memory of a Holland resident was not granted. Earning seven Purple Hearts, Urban served his country beyond the call of duty. He waited for 35 years before the Congressional Medal of Honor was presented to him. He passed way two years ago from complications of shrapnel fragments left in his body.

To deny this well-deserved honor for such an outstanding hero is hard to take for anyone who knew him.

Editor, Detroit Free Press  
321 W. Lafayette  
Detroit, Mi. 48226  
Dear Editor:

When the Veterans' Hospital was built at the Medical Center in Detroit, replacing the one in Allen Park, letters were sent to Representatives and Senators with one important request. It was an appeal to have the new facility named in honor of Lt. Col. Matt Urban, the most decorated soldier in U.S. History. An early reply from Congressman, Sander Levin informed us that it was a long standing policy of the Veterans Administration not to name such facilities after an individual. Then it happened.

**M Co 60th Inf**  
BOB BOVANIZER SECT  
14 Sabre Park  
Niagara Falls, NY 14304

Please add the following name to the Taps Column the next time the Octofoil is printed. John H. Schettig, 2104 Berry Drive, Hatfield Pa 19440, M Co 60th Inf on July 10th, 1997 of cancer.

John joined M Co Jan 1942 at Fort Bragg and served as cook for 13 months. He left M Co in Belgium in September '44.

We were sorry to miss National this year. Bob had a triple by pass on June 13th and it was too close. He is doing very well and we are planning on the Memorial Service in October in Worcester. Hope to see you then.

**CALL OR WRITE A  
FRIEND -  
ENCOURAGE HIM  
TO JOIN THE  
ASSOCIATION**

In the Free Press, dated July 9th, we were surprised to learn that Pres. Bill Clinton made an announcement that the Veterans Center will be formally named for John Dingell, D. from Dearborn. Naturally, this was a big disappointment and we're wondering what happened to that long standing policy? It appears that it's another case of politics.

It is sad that this honor in Memory of Matt Urban was not granted. With seven Purple Hearts, he served his Country beyond the call of duty on several occasions. After the Great War he waited patiently for 35 years before the Congressional Medal of Honor was presented to him. He spent the remainder of his life with his visible wounds, traveling the country over, whenever possible, demonstrating his patriotism and devotion for our Country that he served so well and loved so much. Matt passed away two years ago last March from complications of shrapnel fragments that he carried since the war. He has been laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery.

To deny this well deserved honor for such an outstanding Hero, is hard to take for anyone who knew him.

John Bonkowski  
Past Pres. Ninth Inf.  
Div. Ass'n.  
Roseville, Michigan

I've been involved in a project trying to get a new Veteran's Hospital in Detroit named in honor of Matty Urban. As you know, fighting these politicians could be no better than fighting the Krauts back then.

I'm enclosing my original letter and the edited version that was published in last Thursday's Detroit Free Press. It was a pleasant surprise to have them add the headline and a fine picture of Matty. I'm not holding my breath, but it'll take Bill Clinton to change his mind.

Regards,  
John B.

**K Co. 47th Inf.**  
JOHN W. ARNOLD  
108 NW Jayellen  
Burleson, Tx. 76028

Enclosed a check to catch me up on my past dues. I appreciate getting the OCTOFOIL and always look for any items from "K" Co. 47th Inf. first, then read the rest of the paper. I would like to hear from any of you people who were in WW II in K 47th. My phone No. is 817-295-4700.

I belong to a couple of veteran's organizations here. It gives me something to do in my retirement years. One of the organizations is The Military Order of the Purple Heart. Our last magazine honored the Ninth Infantry Division on the back cover. I am sending a copy of it. There is also a letter in the magazine from a Vietnam veteran who was in the Ninth Division there that is very good.

Hope to hear from some of you, soon.

**Deadline for next issue of the  
Octofoil Dec. 20th**

**47th Inf. E Co.**  
HARRY KENNEY  
10938 E. Bell Flower Rd.  
Sun Lakes, Az. 85248.

A good buddy and friend, Bob Colflesh, formerly E. Co., 47th Regt., lost a fight with cancer on the morning of October 7, 1997. He will be missed by all of his pals in E. Co. He is survived by his 91 year-old mother, two sons Robert and Samuel, and daughters Dorothy and Wendy.

Please add the enclosed cleck for \$25.00 to the Division Memorial Fund in honor of Robert Colflesh.

Thanks and God Bless!

**Co. K 60th Inf.**  
ROBERT H. RUCKER  
5055 W. Panther Creek Dr.  
C-1103

The Woodlands, Texas 77801  
This has been a long and difficult summer. On May 2nd, I discovered a tenderness in my left ankle ... the one that I have "left!" It developed into an ulcer and I have been receiving treatment at two hospitals and wound care centers since. It is almost healed and the docs give me encouragement that it will be healed in a short time. I certainly hope so as I have been "grounded" for most activities for quite awhile.

As you know travel has been curtailed and I can no longer fly without a lot of trouble. So, I find it best to stay home and try to accept the fact that I am still lucky to be here. It was 54 years ago that I was written off as KIA, so I have a lot to be thankful for and I am.

I am enclosing material about Earle Garrison, who I have kept up with for several years. This was sent to me by one of his sons. As usual great soldiers make great leaders in their communities.

**9th Q.M. Co.**  
FLOYD W. HENNESSEY  
7925 Smmrld. Bx. 275  
Lambertville, MI 48144

Dear Dan Quinn:

Back in July I went to go play golf, and before I teed off I saw this guy standing on the tee waiting to tee off. I noticed an Octofoil on his hat so I called to him (Hey Octofoil) and he turned to me and said - you Hollard? I asked him when he was presented that patch? He said - 1942 Fort Bragg. So he waited to talk with me. I told him I got mine in 1942.

He sure was glad to know someone from the 9th. He didn't know there was an association, I said where the hell have you been in the last 50 some years? In a couple of days I went to his house and got acquainted and found out he was with Co. E. 2nd. Rd. 60th Red was captured in Germany got a chest full of medals. Now he is one of us, and with the Mich. Chapter. This really made my day. But I played golf that day too.

P.S. and to top it off we worked at the same place for 20-30 years and never met. Libbey-Owen-Ford Glass Co., Ross Ford, OH, near Toledo.

Walter Fix, 131 Jennings, Rd., Ross Ford, Ohio 43460.



## MAIL CALL

## M.P. Plt.

JACOB NAILOR  
312 Brandy Lane  
Mechanicsburg, Pa. 17055

I am finally getting around to sending my dues for the next three years, I told you at Louisville I would do it as soon as I got home but I just kept putting it off. I got my Octofoil last week and will get it done since it is fresh in my mind.

My wife, Nicki, and I had a great time at the Reunion. She roomed with a classmate from California and I had a room next door with Gerry Bryant, another M.P. from Oregon. The Committee responsible for the planning of the Reunion should be highly congratulated for a job well done. We are looking forward to the one in Hampton, VA.

We had the usual M.P.'s show up. Gerry Bryant, Kenny Meyer, John Maloney, Father Rowan and myself. I am sure there are others who could attend these get togethers and wish they would show up. They just don't know what they are missing. Wadalavage is still tied up with his ill wife and we are anxious to have him back in the fold.

I would be remiss if I did not thank you and Marie for the wonderful job you are doing with the Octofoil and keeping the organization running. It is an endless task and I am sure all appreciate your work.

We are looking forward to seeing you and Marie in Hampton next May. May God bless you and all the members of the 9th Inf. Div. Assn.

## 84th FA.

SAM ROBINSON  
400 Paradise Rd.  
Swampscott, MA 01907

Sorry to say, on coming home from a visit to my son in Raleigh, N.C., I got the notice of Eddie McHugh's passing. He was another 84th B. Btry man gone to meet his buddies. He was with us "all the way." Went only to the Worcester reunions and Father Connors always remembered him.

Am sending you a donation in memory of \*Edward McHugh, 84th FA., \*Jack Kargir 84th FA. and "get well" to: John Vandermeiden, 84th FA.

Thanks and God bless.

## A-T 47th Inf

CHUCK BANAS  
10839 Highpoint Drive  
Pittsburgh, PA 15235

Recuperating after winning a recent major battle in the Intensive Care Unit. Would really enjoy hearing from any Old Reliabilities from A.T. Co. 47th Inf. I'd also like to take this opportunity to express my thanks for the great efforts so evident in the Octofoil. Appreciate receiving our newsletter and catching up with my good buddies. God bless you all!

\*\*\*\*\*

Those who say "you can't take it with you" — never saw a car packed for a vacation trip!!

## SEEKING

Glenn M. Stein  
1268 Foxforrest Circle  
Apopka, FL 32712-2335  
(407) 884-4148  
E-Mail: steing@ocps.k12.fl.us

Dear Mr. Quinn:

I am writing in reference to placement in the OCTOFOIL, seeking anyone who knew my father.

My father was PFC Edward Martin Stein (60th Regt., "F" Co.); he was a mortar gunner and was severely wounded on the night of April 3, 1945, outside New Astenburg, Germany. He was only at the front for a few weeks, being a replacement who joined the regiment in early March 1945. He had dug a foxhole beside a tree in the Huertgen Forest and his buddy (he never mentioned his name) did not dig a hole. As night fell, the buddy got nervous and my father gave him his foxhole and dug another one. A tree burst came down top of them and the buddy only got some .45 clips in his field jacket bent up. Such are the ironies of war.

If you would kindly place an advertisement in the OCTOFOIL, perhaps I can get in touch with persons who knew my father during this period. Any assistance will be much appreciated, thank you in advance, I am,

39th Inf. F Co.  
METRO KOWALCHICK  
106 Greco Ln.  
Mt. Carmel, Pa. 17851

Enclosed my check for dues and donation.

I was a member of F Co., 39th Regt v Africa, Sicily, & Normandy.

I retired from the army June of 1951. Then worked for the Dept. of the Army as a National Cemetery Superintendent. I retired from the position of Deputy Superintendent of Arlington National Cemetery. During my service at Arlington National Cemetery - I was involved in the arrangement of the burial of many former members of the 9th Div. - including General Eddie.

I retired from my position as Deputy Superintendent of Arlington National Cemetery in April 1979 - and have resided in my hometown area, Mt. Carmel, Pa. ever since.

I read every word of each edition of the Octofoil searching for any mention of anyone who was with F Co. 39th. I also served with the 15th Inf. Regt, 3rd Div Co. L. I am 78-years-old, in fairly good health, except for poor eyesight.

## 60th Inf. M Co.

ERNEST STOLTMAN  
618 Chestnut St.  
Grand Forks, N.D. 58201

Enclosed \$75.00 for life membership. I am sorry that this is so late, but had other problems plus was flooded out of my home this spring; but am back in the house after having to put in new furnace, hot water heater, dryer, washing machine and 200 amps. electrical service.

## 60th Inf. G co.

EDWARD McLAUGHLIN  
1296 B Zinfandel  
Gardenville, NV 89410

I enjoy reading the Octofoil very much.

A few weeks ago I was able to find the book "8 Stars to Victory" in a book store in Reno, Nevada.

If possible I would like this article printed in the next Octofoil.

I was drafted into the Army as a pre-war father in March 1944. I had two children before Pearl Harbor.

In the middle of Oct. 1944 I joined the 60th Inf. while they were in the Huertgen Forest. I was with them until the end of the war. Thank God I was never wounded.

Just one week before the war ended I was transferred to 60th Reg. Special Service doing sign work, art work, etc., which was my trade before the war. I was stationed at Geisenfeld.

There were two officers, Lt. Howard S. McCune and Lt. Stessman, both were with Co. G at one time. I never knew what happened to Lt. McCune, but Lt. Stessman was still with Co. G when the war ended.

If anyone has any information about these two I would like to hear from you. Lt. McCune joined the Company around Christmas time.

Thank you.

Co. C. 39th Infantry  
JOHN D. YOUNG

P.O. Box 123  
Deer Lodge, TN 37726

Please renew my membership for 3 yrs.

Several years ago my wife and I made a tour and visited some of the boys I served with: Clifford Wray in Atlantic, Ga., Cyril Guidry of Plaquemine, La., Felix Castaneda in Bagwell, Tx., and Lee Ellis in Gumison, Colo. Recently we stopped off in Okla. City, Okla. and visited with Capt. Charles Scheffel. He was in Co. C. for sometime in France. He is in Okla. City, Okla.

I saw an article that Sgt. Carlos Ward wrote in your paper sometime ago. I remember him from back in Sicily. Clifford Wray is deceased.

## Co. F, 47th Infantry

CHARLES ROCHELLE  
6419 NC 86  
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Just a few words to say to Louisville convention was one of the best yet. The older I get the better they are. We are making plans to go to Virginia. We hope to see everyone there. I have finished reading Jack Blann's book, A Private Diary. Everyone in the 2nd Battalion, 47th Infantry should get it and read it. The battle of "Oberkirchen" stand out for me. Not bad for an 18 year old! Will write again. Tell everyone hello.

Newspapers have reporters to write the news, columnists to misrepresent it and delivery boys who throw it in the roses!!

**When was the last time you wrote a letter to our Mail Call Column? Just a postal card would denote your interest and let some buddy know where you are. You like to read what other members send in ... why not do your own part and write a few lines now and then for their enjoyment.**

## SEEKING

Dear Mr. Daniel Quinn,

I am wondering if you can help me in regards to my late grandfather, George H. Hobson, Jr. I am inquiring about his time with the 9th Infantry Division, specifically the 60th Infantry Regiment, Company "B" during World War Two. Is there any information you can provide in reference to unit history, battles incurred, awards, unit citations, known personal journals, orders, correspondences or any survivors during that period? Would you have titles to any book regarding the 9th Infantry Division, 60th Infantry Regiment or copies of any "After Action Reports?" Does the 9th Infantry Division have a web page? I see that you have a newsletter, would it be possible to obtain a copy? Do you know of any helpful WebPages concerning research on specific units during World War Two.

I also wrote Mr. Ken Sundberg, 9th Infantry Division, 118 E. Mornroe Circle, Jefferson, OH 44047 on 30 July 1997 in regards to same, but with no reply. Are you affiliated in any way with this 9th Infantry Division?

The enclosed self-addressed envelope is for your convenience. A reply either way would be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

William H. Sprake IV  
3208 Dunnebrook Drive  
Virginia Beach, VA 23456

## 2nd Bn Med. 39th

DALE E. SMITH  
1202 Crest Hill Dr.  
Junction City, KS 66441

Last week I called the VA Med. Center at Canadaiqua, NY to speak to Larry Goodwin, our buddy who distinguished himself as an outstanding medic with the 2nd Bn. Aid Station in the 39 Inf. I was informed that Larry had passed away on Aug. 8 this year.

I know that all of us who knew Larry salute him for his dedication to service with G Co. and all of the 2nd Bn.

We all pray that Larry may Rest in Peace.

## K and Can. Co. 39th Inf.

BURLEIGH BREWER  
408 Silverdale Terrace  
Dayton, OH 45440

Am enclosing a check for three years renewal. Really enjoy the Octofoil. Would like to see more letters from 39th Infantry in paper, especially K and Cannon men.

Just returned from 52nd Reunion held at Louisville. So nice to see all our friends at these gatherings. The three hour boat ride was great.

Look forward to our meeting again in Hampton, VA in May '98.

Until then, regards.

\*\*\*\*\*

May the bird of paradise reward you with a drumstick.

THE OCTOFOIL Publication No. 402220  
412 Gregory Ave Weehawken, N.J. 07087-  
Standard Out Postage paid at Union City, N.J. Authorization of October 1, 1987

## A.T. Co. 47th Inf.

CHARLES A. BODNAR  
187 N.Y. Ave.  
Bergenfield, N.J.

Hiya, A.T. co!

It's been a long time since I've read any news about you leftovers of W.W.2. I'm still around pushing 80. That's because I was rejected for heaven during W.W.2 and the devil still doesn't want me in hell. I hope it will be a longtime before the verdict comes in. However, I'm still optimistic about seeing the next century turn the corner. I don't do very much, these days, only watch the sports events, and waiting for the Octofoil. By sports, I mean watching the ticker tape of the stock market on T.V. It gets real exciting when you're losing money. It's also good therapy for losing your appetite, and keeping your weight down.

I hear from George Remalley and Bill Barker occasionally, but the rest of the bunch is still hiding in their fox-holes somewhere. --- come on out, the shelling is over.

By the time the next issue of our Octofoil is printed, --- I want to wish all you guys of the 9th Div., a belly-full of Thanksgiving, A Merry Christmas, and A Happy New Year.

Perhaps we'll meet again at the next reunion in Virginia. Till then.

## 84th F.A. Btry. B

MRS. IRENE PHENIX  
6280 N.W. 15th St.  
Margate, FL 33063

Veterans Day is coming soon and I make this donation to the Memorial Fund in memory of all the deceased members of the 84th.

I know my husband Al (Frency) Phenix would want me to do this which I do gladly. Also I wish to thank all of his friends that donated to the Memorial Fund in his memory. I received so many sympathy cards from all his buddies and I thank them so much for thinking of me. They will be in my prayers and I wish them all good health and long life.

With deep affection to all. P.S. Thank you so much for sending me the Octofoil. I really appreciate it very much.

\*\*\*\*\*

If brains were leather — some people couldn't saddle a flea.